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GPO COMPLETES 2001 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST TO CONGRESS

Need for Funding to Cover Workload Increases and New Air Conditioning System Detailed

The Government Printing Office (GPO) completed the presentation of its appropriations request to Congress for FY 2001 by appearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Legislative Branch Appropriations on Tuesday, February 22. GPO appeared before the House Subcommittee on Legislative Appropriations on February 1.

Testifying before both subcommittees, Public Printer Michael F. DiMario requested a total of \$121.3 million for FY 2001. The request includes \$80.8 million for Congressional Printing and Binding and \$34.5 million for Salaries and Expenses of the Superintendent of Documents. It also includes \$6 million to cover extraordinary expenses associated with the replacement of GPO's air conditioning system.

Not including the funds for air conditioning, the request represents an increase of 11.7 percent over the level of funding approved by Congress for FY 2000, or \$103.2 million. Workload increases account for a majority of the requested increase in funding. Under Congressional Printing and Binding, GPO will produce a new edition of the U.S. Code, which is issued every six years by law, as well as a variety of products in support of the 2001 Presidential inauguration. GPO also projects that the first session of the 107th Congress will generate increased workload for a number of products, such as bills, resolutions, and amendments. For the Superintendent of Documents appropriation, GPO is seeking increased funding to expand the electronic information services made available by **GPO Access**, GPO's popular Internet information service (www.access.gpo.gov). A management audit of the GPO, conducted in 1998 by Booz-

Allen & Hamilton, Inc., recommended that GPO seek increased funding from Congress for **GPO Access**.

The Congressional Printing and Binding Appropriation covers the costs of producing the Congressional Record, bills, reports, hearings, documents, and related legislative products. Each year, a substantial volume of this work is requisitioned from GPO. In FY 1999, more than 800 million copy pages of congressional products were produced at an average cost of about 7 cents per page, including all database work, production, and delivery in both conventional and electronic formats. This appropriation also covers the cost of building congressional information databases for dissemination via **GPO Access**.

The majority of the Superintendent of Documents Salaries and Expenses Appropriation is for the Federal Depository Library Program, under which Government publications are distributed in print, microfiche, or electronic formats to approximately 1,300 libraries nationwide for the free use of the public. It also funds the cataloging and indexing of Government publications, the distribution of Government publications as required by law, and the distribution of US. Government publications to foreign libraries which in turn agree to provide copies of their official publications to the Library of Congress. In addition, this appropriation provides the majority of funding for **GPO Access**, through which the public is now retrieving about 21 million Government documents each month.

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